

September 2014

Praise and Prayer from Juanita Fike

Pray to the Lord of the Harvest



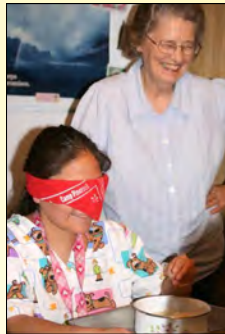
Priscilla, Kattia, Sharon, Lindzie

The past three months have been filled with desk work, hosting many guests, **picnics with Native girls and their mothers**, decision-making, preliminary development of a PowerPoint presentation for my supporting churches, helping a couple of elderly missionary ladies with various needs, and grieving the death of one of them while rejoicing in her Home going.



Donaraye, Donavina, Lois, Lenora, me

Almost daily there are mission documents to proofread and edit. Each month I gather news for the mission's prayer focus, and quarterly I solicit and edit articles for the mission newsletter. I'm also attempting to finish stories I began a number of years ago. I don't want to finalize them until they have been scrutinized by the eyes of several who have more writing ability than I, but those persons are extremely busy. Recently a friend's schedule lightened momentarily, and she critiqued them all . . . as a birthday gift. What a blessing! Now I need to make suggested changes.



Sharon, Juanita.
Rice game

This summer one of the younger Native girls who has attended girls' clubs for several years attended VBS at the home of another of our UIM missionaries. After hearing the Gospel again, she said in disgust, "I've heard that 30 times!" For weeks afterward I questioned whether I should continue to expend time and energy with the girls if that is their response. They love the food and fun but show less interest in the Bible lessons. Through my years with this ministry, I've seen little of the spiritual fruit that I long to see. However, as I pondered the fact that these girls seldom hear the Good News elsewhere and the fate of those who do not accept it, I've felt compelled to keep on. Pray for wisdom in choosing lesson material, His help in teaching, and soft and receptive hearts. The fall club start-up will be delayed due to expected guests, a staff meeting, and a visit to two supporting churches.



Donavina, Donaraye, me

The time comes when one needs an "aside." I experienced one of those earlier this summer, and God graciously provided two "aside-time" opportunities for physical and spiritual refreshment. A group of ladies who have prayed for me for years (plus two young ladies and a young boy) came from New Mexico and spoiled me for two days. They brought and prepared almost all our food, washed the dishes (and my windows!), and insisted that I not lift a finger! Later, a several-day visit from a prayer supporter turned into a hoped-for spiritual retreat as we listened to messages from the Word, fellowshiped, and shared prayer times. Thank God for times of restoration!

I was deeply impacted the day that Lenita, my nearly 90-year-old missionary friend, entered the Lord's presence. After her last breath, 15 of us, mostly Navajos, gathered around her hospital bed. The Navajo pastor read from the Word and then suggested that each one pray. To hear the dear Navajo believers tearfully thank God for Lenita's many years of faithfulness, for her kindness and caring, and for her willingness to leave everything familiar to come to tell them about Jesus was intensely moving.

During my current study of Revelation, I've come to believe even more strongly that our time on earth is short. God has faithfully provided forgiveness of sin and abundant and eternal life. May each of us seek to serve Him faithfully with our time, health, strength, and resources. I may not see the extent of fruit that was evident from Lenita's life, but my part is to be faithful and trust the results to Him.

Thank you for your part in the ministries entrusted to me,

Juanita
Juanita Fike

6359 N Snowflake Dr.
Flagstaff, AZ 86004
jfike@uim.org

U.S. Donations/Address Changes UIM Finance Center
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